

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

ITO et al

Atty. Ref.: 461-144

Serial No. To Be Assigned

Group: 1775

Filed: July 14, 2003

Examiner: XU, Ling

For: CERAMIC HONEYCOMB STRUCTURAL BODY AND METHODS OF PREPARING THE  
SAME

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July 14, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Kindly preliminarily amend the above-referenced application as follows: